

Pers 2 Frederick C. BARGHOORN

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1963

X Pers 2 Cyril E. BLACK

X Pers 2 Joseph Thomas SHAW

Spy Charges and Cultural Exchange

One of the worrisome problems of the Communist governments that maintain contacts with an advanced industrial country like the United States is to find the happy medium between genuine cultural relations and espionage. Generating public apprehension of foreign tourists, students and scholars from time to time has become standard operating procedure in seeking to find this precarious balance. A dose of spy-mania is injected into the atmosphere whenever the Communist authorities suspect that person-to-person contacts with the *Kulturtraeger* from the world doomed by the Marxist-Leninist philosophy of history becomes too infectious for the safety and well-being of Communist ideology.

This is one of the more likely explanations as to why the name of so distinguished, let alone reputable, a scholar as Prof. Cyril E. Black of Princeton University was dragged into the trial of Bulgarian diplomat Ivan Assen Christov Georgiev. For reasons that have become a classic of Communist political show trials since the twenties and thirties in the Soviet Union, the forties and fifties in China and the Soviet satellite states, Georgiev made a full confession of treason and was condemned to death on Dec. 31 and shot soon thereafter.

In the course of that public presentation in Sofia, Georgiev alleged that his contact man with the CIA (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency) for years on end was a certain mysterious Anderson, who on closer inspection turned out to be a Professor of History at Princeton, Dr. Black. The latter said in rebuttal that the lies told about him were a familiar Communist technique resorted to on occasions to counteract "the warm feelings most Bulgarians have for Americans and to warn them against associations with us now that contacts between the two countries are becoming freer." Moreover, Dr. Black pointed out, this was a repeat performance in the use of his name by Bulgarian Communists. "In 1949," the Princeton professor recalled, "at a trial of a Protestant clergyman an equally preposterous allegation was made. The Bulgarian Communists have found it convenient to use my name because of my long association with Bulgaria."

The arrest, incommunicado detention for two weeks

and release of Professor Frederick C. Barghoorn of Yale might be regarded as an unsuccessful attempt by the KGB secret police to concoct another espionage case probably for similar purposes. Dr. Barghoorn was actually arrested shortly after he left a meeting with the Minister-Counsellor of the American Embassy and was about to enter his hotel in Moscow to pack and leave the country. The arrest took place immediately after a stranger accosted Dr. Barghoorn, addressed him in English and handed him some papers. Before the Yale professor could even take a look at the papers, he was bundled off for interrogation.

Komsomolskaya Pravda of Nov. 15, in reporting President Kennedy's emphatic denial of Soviet allegations that Barghoorn was on an espionage mission, referred to the latter as "professor" in quotations, casting doubt on his academic credentials. Yet Dr. Barghoorn is one of the leading specialists in his field (see *Communist Affairs*, Vol. 1, No. 8, p. 3) and was on a mission in the Soviet Union to establish academic relations between the University of Kiev and Yale University.

These are not the only instances when American professors have been accused of espionage. In its issue of Aug. 2 *Izvestiia* published a *feuilleton* with a heavy moral in which it charged that an American specialist on Russia's most eminent poet, Alexander Pushkin, was a CIA recruiter of espionage agents among the callow young intellectuals of the Soviet Union who are friendly to westerners. Though this CIA "agent" had introduced himself as "Irving Fomich" and "Irving Shaw," his actual name, according to his American passport was Joseph, not Irving, stated *Izvestiia's* writing team; and the man in question turned out to be Professor Joseph Thomas Shaw, Chairman of the Department of Slavic Languages at the University of Wisconsin. At least, that is his position today.